

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF NAA MEETING IN COPENHAGEN

1. INDIVIDUAL RESOLUTIONS, SECDEF'S CALL ON PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN AND HIS SPEECH TO THE NAA HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPORTED BUT PERHAPS IT WILL ALSO BE USEFUL FOR ADDRESSEES TO GET A LITTLE FLAVOR OF THE NAA MEETING IN COPENHAGEN.

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2. DANISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WORKED HARD TO PROVIDE THE BEST

FACILITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS THEY KNEW HOW. THE PROGRAM INCLUDED A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY THE ROYAL BALLET FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION IN THE HISTORIC STOCK EXCHANGE; A FERRY BOAT RIDE TO HELSINGOR, SITE OF "HAMLET'S CASTLE", WITH LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE TUBORG-CARLSBERG BREWERIES; AND A GARDEN PARTY HOSTED BY QUEEN MARGRETHE AND PRINCE HENDRIK. THE PRIME MINISTER GAVE A RECEPTION AND THE CLOSING FUNCTION WAS A BUFFET OFFERED TO ALL DELEGATES BY CONGRESSMAN WAYNE HAYS, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY. A NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS STRESSED THAT THE DANISH HOSPITALITY AND EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS CONTRIBUTED TO THE GOOD MOOD OF THE PARLIAMENTARIANS DURING THE WEEK-LONG MEETING. A SENIOR STAFF MEMBER OF THE US DELEGATION, A VETERAN OF MANY SUCH MEETINGS, SAID HE BELIEVED THE DANES HAD OUTDONE ANY PREVIOUS HOST. HE BELIEVED THEIR EFFORT TRANSCENDED PURE HOSPITALITY AND WAS INTENDED AS A SERIOUS DEMONSTRATION TO THE VISITORS THAT DENMARK WAS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE ALLIANCE.

3. THE US PARTICIPATION WAS LESS THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED INASMUCH AS A NUMBER OF SENATORS WERE UNABLE TO COME AT THE LAST MINUTE. THE DISAPPOINTMENT THAT MORE SENATORS COULD NOT COME WAS PERHAPS COUNTER-BALANCED, HOWEVER, BY THE STRONG CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION LED BY CONGRESSMAN WAYNE HAYS WHO WAS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY. HIS SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE PLENARY WAS CHARACTERIZED AS HARD-HITTING AND REALISTIC BY BOTH DANISH OFFICIALS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES. GENERAL HAIG'S SPEECH TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ON THE FIRST DAY WAS ALSO WIDELY PRAISED IN THE CORRIDORS OF THE NAA. THE THEME WHICH HE STRESSED CONCERNING THE PERENNIAL MILITARY PRESSURE FROM THE EAST WAS ECHOED AGAIN THE LAST DAY BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH WAS THE BEST-ATTENDED EVENT OF THE WEEK, NOT ONLY BY ALL OF THE VISITING DELEGATIONS BUT ALSO BY PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN AND MOST OF THE GOVERNMENT LEADERS. CONGRESSMAN PETER RODINO FILLED IN ON SHORT NOTICE FOR SENATOR PELL AS SPEAKER TO THE AMERICAN CLUB OF COPENHAGEN, EXPLAINING THE HISTORY OF THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY.

4. THE TWO RESOLUTIONS WHICH ATTRACTED THE GREATEST CONTROLLED OFFICIAL USE

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VERSY WERE THE ONES ON SPAIN AND THE REPEAL OF THE US ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY. ON THE RESOLUTION ON SPAIN, SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARIANS HAD DONE THEIR HOMEWORK AND MAINTAINED A TACTICAL INITIATIVE. THEY WERE THUS ABLE TO DEFEND THEIR ORIGINAL HARSH DRAFT RESOLUTION AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO WEAKEN IT THROUGH AMENDMENTS OR TO DEFEAT IT ENTIRELY. PROPONENTS OF THIS RESOLUTION APPEARED TO BE MOTIVATED BY THE DESIRE TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE US THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER STEPS AT

PRESENT TO BRING SPAIN CLOSER TO NATO, BY A DESIRE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ONLY "DEMOCRATIC" GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE, AND BY A DESIRE TO SHOW THEIR DISAPPROVAL OF THE CRIMINAL TRIALS IN SPAIN. MOST MEMBERS OF THE US, CANADIAN AND GERMAN DELEGATIONS UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO BEAT DOWN THE RESOLUTION BY EXPLAINING THAT CRITICISM OF A COUNTRY NOT REPRESENTED IN THE ASSEMBLY WAS GRATUITOUS AND INOPPORTUNE.

5. POLEMICAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN GREEK AND TURKEY MEMBERS CONSUMED MUCH OF THE TIME ALLOWED FOR DEBATE IN THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES. MOST PARLIAMENTARIANS APPEARED TO AGREE WITH THE TURKISH POSITION WHICH WAS FORCIBLY EXPRESSED BY THE TURKISH DELEGATES. THE GREEKS COMPLAINED THAT SACEUR AND SYG LUNS SIDED WITH THE TURKS AND DID NOT MAINTAIN AN EVEN STANCE. GREEK AND TURKISH PERMREPS FROM NATO WORKED CLOSELY WITH THEIR DELEGATIONS AND HELPED THEM PRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS.

6. PARLIAMENTARIANS FOLLOWED THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION CLOSELY AND BALSIMAO, EDITOR OF ESPRESSO IN LISBON, ATTENDED SEVERAL OF THE SESSIONS AS WELL AS A SELECTION OF PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS, PPD AND CDS REPRESENTATIVES. THE GENERAL MOOD OF THE DELEGATES WAS RELIEF THAT THE SITUATION HAD IMPROVED IN PORTUGAL AND GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT ECONOMIC AID SHOULD BE EXTENDED QUICKLY. THERE WAS SOME MUTED CRITICISM OF THE US BY SEVERAL DELEGATES WHO SAID THEY FEARED THAT "CIA MIGHT START SENDING MONEY TO THE NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT". CONGRESSMAN HAYS MET THIS CRITICISM HEAD-ON BY TELLING MEMBERS THAT BEFORE CIA COULD SEND ANY MONEY ANYWHERE IT HAD TO GET THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE IN CONGRESS OF WHICH HE WAS A MEMBER AND THAT HE COULD STATE THAT "NO GOVERNMENT MONEY HAD BEEN SENT TO PORTUGAL TO AID ITS POLITICAL PARTIES". HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MADE THE SAME STATEMENT TO THE DANISH FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION.

7. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED THAT EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY. THE WORDS OF APPRECIATION EXPRESSED BY CHAIRMAN HAYS AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE NAA WERE WARMLY RECEIVED BY DANISH OFFICIALS. CERTAIN FACTS OF LIFE ABOUT THE CONTINUING THREAT FROM THE EAST EXPRESSED BY CHAIRMAN HAYS, SECDEF, SACEUR AND SYG LUNS, AMONG OTHERS, WERE NOT LOST UPON THE DANES. FURTHERMORE, THE DANES, WHO OCCASIONALLY SUFFER FROM AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX AS ONE OF THE SMALLER NATO MEMBERS, FELT GREATER CONFIDENCE IN NATO AND GREATER PRIDE IN THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO IT. IT WAS, THEREFORE, A SUCCESSFUL WEEK FROM THE DANISH POINT OF VIEW AND A BOOST TO THEIR NATO PARTICIPATION. INDIRECTLY,

THE PRESENCE HERE OF LEADING AMERICANS SUCH AS CHAIRMAN HAYS,
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND GENERAL HAIG CONTRIBUTED TO
CLOSER DANISH-AMERICAN TIES AS WELL.
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